

# **Establishing the CAREC Regional Joint Transport and Trade Facilitation Committee**

**CAREC Workshop on Regional Joint Transport  
and Trade Facilitation Committee**

**15 October 2009**

**Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia**

# Background

- The Action Plan of the Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy (TTFS) proposed the establishment of national joint transport and trade facilitation coordinating committees (**NJCs**) and a regional joint transport and trade facilitation committee (**RJC**).
- The main objectives of NJCs as follows:
  - To promote transport development and integrated trade facilitation at the national level through improved interagency collaboration and enhanced partnerships between the public and private sectors
  - To provide integrated and overall leadership on trade facilitation matters at the national level

# Plans and Milestones in 2009

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Timetable</b>
Inventory of existing committees	February 2009
Country consultation meetings	April-May 2009
Preparation of country specific case studies	April-May 2009
CAREC workshop on NJCs/RJC	May 2009
Establishment of CAREC RJC/1st CAREC RJC workshop	October 2009

# 1st NJC Workshop in UB

- Participants from trade, transport, and customs ministries, as well as freight forwarders associations of AFG, AZE, PRC, KAZ, KGZ, MON, TAJ, and UZB; and Multilateral institutions such UNESCAP and UNECE
- reviewed the status of NJCs or similar arrangements in each country, and discussed measures to establish and/or strengthen NJCs
- concluded that political will, strong leadership, effective organizational structure, concrete and achievable action plans with performance targets, and sustainable funding are necessary conditions for NJCs/RJC to be successful.

# 1st NJC/RJC Workshop, UB

- Consensus reached:
  - CAREC member countries agreed on the need for and usefulness of NJCs and the RJC.
  - There was general agreement on the recommended scope of work and TORs for NJCs and the RJC
  - ADB, as CAREC Secretariat for trade facilitation program, will further improve the TORs to meet national and regional needs
  - The 1st RJC meeting will be convened before the end of the year

# Regional Joint Committee

- TTFS Action plan indicated the following objectives of CAREC RJC:
  - Provide regional leadership in the design and implementation of the TTFS
  - Serve as a regional forum to raise, discuss, and resolve issues relating to barriers to trade and development that are of common interest to its members

# Regional Joint Committee

- Proposed organization structure:
  - RJC to be comprised of representatives of NJCs and regional groupings such as unions or federations of national freight forwarders or transport groups
  - Chairperson, nominated by host country, to lead RJC for a one year term
  - ADB to serve as RJC Secretariat
  - RJC to hold annual meeting in the same host country as the CAREC Senior Officials Meeting and Ministerial Conference
  - Working Group/Task Forces to be created, if and as needed

# Terms of Reference

- **enhancing ownership**
  - overseeing the implementation of the CAREC TTFS and Action Plan, providing support for implementation of national action plans of NJCs, promotion of regional groupings;
- **coordinating**
  - With CCC, TSCC, TPCC and other regional cooperation mechanisms and other development partners;
- **supervising, and monitoring**
  - CAREC transport and trade facilitation projects.



# Enhancing Ownership

## Specific Tasks

- **Oversee implementation of CAREC TTFS Action Plan**
  - Supervise, monitor and evaluate implementation of the TTFS and its Action Plan, and take necessary measures to address identified constraints and issues
  - Update and modify the Action Plan, as necessary
- **Support implementation of national action plans through sharing of experiences and best practices**
- **Synchronize the development of CAREC corridors across all member countries**
- **Promote CAREC regional groupings including private sector initiatives to work together and address common problems**

# Coordination

## Specific Tasks

- Liaise with CCC, TSCC and TPCC within the CAREC umbrella, and with regional cooperation mechanisms such as SCO, EurAsEC, etc
- Promote participation and involvement of development partners, and advance public-private partnerships and private sector participation in CAREC regional trade and transport projects
- Establish links with counterpart bodies in other countries/regions, and sponsor regional forums to exchange information, experience and best practices in relation to trade and transport facilitation

# Implementation

## Specific Tasks

- In coordination with NJCs, ensure sustainable and efficient management and operations of the CAREC Corridors and BCPs;
- Encourage use of multimodal transportation;
- Promote private sector investments in building logistics centers and inland container depots; and
- Mobilize resources to upgrade logistics training in the region and to create a regional professional certification program

# CAREC Results Framework

## Potential Indicators

- Increased trade and transport volumes across CAREC member country borders
- Reduced number of bottlenecks in the entire process of international trade and transport, and faster, reliable and predictable transit along CAREC corridors (measured and monitored through CPMM)
- Improved trade and transport-related infrastructure including BCPs, road and rail networks;
- Improved operations of international trade and transport to reduce transaction cost and processing time
  - harmonized documents and procedures,
  - modern information and communication technology,
  - use of single window, and
  - increased number of coordinated border management schemes

# CAREC Results Framework

## Potential Indicators

- Increased number of operations that use multimodal and more efficient modes of transport;
- Increased accession to multilateral trade and transport conventions
- Reduced logistics cost as percentage of GDP and logistics cost component of final product cost;
- Rise in the number of trade and transport related investment projects (e.g. logistics centers, trade hubs)
- Increased foreign direct investment
- Improved ranking in the World Bank “Doing Business” and “Logistics Performance Index” surveys

# Proposed Work Program

<b>Goals</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Programs</b>
1. Establishment of competitive corridors across CAREC region	• Development of selected CAREC corridors to improve connectivity and reduce transport cost	• Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM)
		• Corridor Management

# Proposed Work Program

Goals	Objectives	Programs
<p>2. Facilitation of movement through corridors and across borders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint transport and trade facilitation, customs modernization and reforms, and development of regional trade logistics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutional Support for Transport and Trade Facilitation – NJCs and RJC</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCP Improvement</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single Electronic Window Development</li> </ul>

# Proposed Work Program

Goals	Objectives	Programs
<p>3. Development of sustainable, safe, and user-friendly transport and trade networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achievement of sustainability, safety and user-friendliness for CAREC transport and trade networks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening cooperation mechanisms and private sector involvement – CFCFA</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination with development partners</li> </ul>



# Proposed Work Program

Program	Proposed activities 2009-2010
CPMM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversee implementation of CPMM in 2010</li> </ul>
Corridor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt prudent approaches, covering all issues, for comprehensive management of the six CAREC corridors</li> </ul>
Institutional support for transport and trade facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• oversee implementation of TA to establish and strengthen NJCs</li> <li>• workshops to assist NJCs develop national joint action plans for transport and trade facilitation</li> <li>• workshop to review and update CAREC TTFS Action Plan</li> <li>• trainings/seminars to promote cohesiveness of committees</li> <li>• Annual RJC meeting</li> <li>• Develop core curricula, twinning arrangements, and setup regional training database</li> </ul>
BCP Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of investment for infrastructure improvement and institutional and policy support at BCPs along CAREC corridors</li> </ul>

# Proposed Work Program

Program	Proposed activities 2009-2010
<b>Single Electronic Window Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement TA projects and workshops to develop national SW roadmaps</li> <li>• facilitate legislative reforms for SW operations in respective jurisdictions</li> <li>• support development of regional ICT platform to maximize value of national SWs</li> </ul>
<b>Strengthening cooperation mechanism and private sector involvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country consultations with private sector groups (e.g. FFAs, chambers of commerce, transport groups)</li> <li>• Coordinate with regional groupings of transporters and freight forwarders</li> </ul>
<b>Coordination with development partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint seminars, trainings, workshops</li> <li>• Joint corridor monitoring</li> <li>• Partnership forums</li> <li>• Co-sponsored specialized trainings/seminars</li> </ul>

# Composition

<b>RJC</b>	<b>TSCC</b>	<b>CCC</b>	<b>TPCC</b>	<b>CFCFA</b>
NJC, TSCC, CCC and TPCC	Head of Transport Ministries	Heads of Customs Authorities	Head of Trade Ministries	carrier associations, freight forwarder associations and logistics associations

# Main Areas of Responsibility

<b>RJC</b>	<b>TSCC</b>	<b>CCC</b>	<b>TPCC</b>	<b>CFCFA</b>
Transport Facilitation; Trade Facilitation; and Related Cross-Cutting Issues	Transport Policy; Transport Investment Issues	Customs Cooperation Issues	Trade Policy Issues	Trade and Trade Facilitation Issues that Need Private Sector's Participation

# Terms of Reference

RJC	TSCC	CCC	TPCC	CFCFA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– enhance member countries' collective ownership of the CAREC joint transport and trade facilitation program</li> <li>– serve as the focal point of coordination</li> <li>– assume the responsibility for coordinating and supervising major CAREC transport and trade facilitation projects</li> <li>– establish links with counterpart bodies in other countries/ regions, and sponsor regional forums</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– harmonize and simplify cross-border transport procedures</li> <li>– harmonize transport regulations</li> <li>– restructure and modernize railways</li> <li>– improve sector funding and management</li> <li>– develop and improve regional transport corridors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– harmonize and simplify customs procedures</li> <li>– coordinated border management</li> <li>– regional transit development</li> <li>– coordinated ICT development</li> <li>– risk management and post-entry audit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– reduce impediments to transit trade</li> <li>– simplify border trade logistics and reduce impediments</li> <li>– undertake trade liberalization measures vis-à-vis tariff and non-tariff barriers per WTO accession requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– provide feedback to CAREC governments on TTFS Action Plan implementation</li> <li>– advance public-private partnerships</li> <li>– develop standardized transport documents and standardized carriage contract</li> <li>– build IT platforms to facilitate trade and transport</li> <li>– raise competence of trade &amp; transport operators</li> </ul>

# Thank you



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